

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 3 and 4 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim I or ~~Claim II~~ wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be eco-friendly silica-gel.

4. (Amended) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim I or ~~Claim II~~ wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be mixed with other materials such as gold dust, pearl white, aromatics, or thermo-indicating agent to achieve more colorful and eye-catching effects of the retaining end thereof in display.

5. (New) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim II wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be eco-friendly silica-gel.

6. (New) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim II wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be mixed with other materials such as gold dust, pearl white, aromatics, or thermo-indicating agent to achieve more colorful and eye-catching effects of the retaining end thereof in display.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 3 and 4 and add claims 5 and 6 as follows:

–3. (Amended) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim I wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be eco-friendly silica-gel.

4. (Amended) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim I wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be mixed with other materials such as gold dust, pearl white, aromatics, or thermo-indicating agent to achieve more colorful and eye-catching effects of the retaining end thereof in display.

5. (New) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim II wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be eco-friendly silica-gel.

6. (New) The retaining end of the shoelace as claimed in Claim II wherein the rubber molding the retaining end thereof can also be mixed with other materials such as gold dust, pearl white, aromatics, or thermo-indicating agent to achieve more colorful and eye-catching effects of the retaining end thereof in display.--